

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am aware that the Press Recognition Panel (PRP) is consulting the public on what we think about the current situation regarding the press regulatory system and whether self regulators are meeting Leveson's criteria, and what we the public think the PRP should tell Parliament. Here are my suggestions for what I, as a member of the public who has been affected by Press abuse, think you should tell Parliament:

1. Parliament should be reminded by the PRP what the Leveson Report said should happen if the corporate press industry try to veto his recommendations and refuse to comply. The Leveson Report says: "if some or all of the industry are not willing to participate in effective independent regulation, my own concluded view is to reject the notion that they should escape regulation altogether. I cannot, and will not, recommend another last chance saloon for the press. With some measure of regret, therefore, I am driven to conclude that the Government should be ready to consider the need for a statutory backstop regulator being established, to ensure, at the least, that the press are subject to regulation that would require the fullest compliance with the criminal and civil law, if not also to ensure consequences equivalent to those that would flow from an independent self-regulatory system."
2. In the meantime, regardless of whether IMPRESS is recognised by the PRP, the PRP should strongly recommend to Parliament that the key 'guaranteed access to justice incentive' (section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act) should be brought into effect as Parliament had intended.

I trust this above is satisfactory, however should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards

Ella Bennett